

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present patent application based on the foregoing amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

By this Amendment, claims 17 and 21-22 are amended. Support for the amendments to the claims may be found throughout the original disclosure. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, after entry of this amendment, claims 17 and 19-22 will remain pending in the patent application.

Claims 17 and 19-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Hendricks *et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 5,659,350) (hereinafter "Hendricks") in view of Cooper *et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 6,901,209) (hereinafter "Cooper"). This rejection is respectfully traversed because Hendricks and Cooper, taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose, teach or suggest all the claim features.

For example, Hendricks, Cooper and a combination thereof fail to disclose, teach or suggest an information reproducing apparatus used in a transmitting/receiving system comprising a transmitting side and a receiving side, (a) said transmitting side including (i) means for transmitting pay content information along with corresponding transmission time information, said content information being allowed to be stored for a predetermined period of time; and (ii) means for encrypting and transmitting transmission time information continuously after transmission of the content information has been completed, (b) said receiving side including (i) means for reproducing received content information and for decrypting the transmission time information; (ii) means for temporarily storing the received content information as stored content information and the received transmission time information as stored transmission time information when the reproduction is interrupted; (iii) means for obtaining a time difference between the stored transmission time information and the received transmission time information when the reproduction interruption has been terminated; (iv) means for allowing a reproduction of the stored content information if the time difference is less than or equal to the predetermined period of time, and means for executing charging of pay information based on a value of the time difference; and (v) means for presenting an audible and/or visual warning if the time difference is greater than a predetermined period of time, and for deleting the stored content information, as recited in claim 17.

As explained in Applicants' Amendment of November 18, 2005, Hendricks merely discloses a center for controlling the operations of a digital television program delivery

system that includes a delivery system 200. (See col. 3, lines 5-6). Hendricks discloses that a set top terminal 220, which resides in the home of the subscriber, receives compressed programs and control signals that are either placed in local storage, executed immediately, or sent directly to the television screen. (See col. 10, lines 29-67). However, Hendricks is silent as to what happens to the received content information and the transmission time information in the event of an interruption of the reproduction of the received content information.

The Office Action relied on Cooper as allegedly remedying the deficiencies of Hendricks. Applicants respectfully disagree for at least the following reasons.

Cooper merely discloses a delivery system that transmits a program to a user. Cooper discloses that the programs consist of television video, multiple audio and ancillary data including closed captioning, time code, presentation time stamp and program schedule information. (See, e.g., col. 5, lines 35-40 of Cooper). The programs of Cooper are compressed or redacted, for example according to the MPEG2 standard, and coupled to N multiple delivery channels for satellite or other transmission over a large area of land whereby it may be received by numerous users. (See, e.g., col. 5, lines 40-47 of Cooper).

However, unlike claim 17, Cooper is silent as to a means for encrypting and transmitting transmission time information continuously after transmission of the content information has been completed. In Cooper, the time code and the presentation time stamp are sent along with the content information (e.g., video and audio data) and are merely used for managing the reproduction time of the program. In other words, this time information corresponds to a time period or closed domain during which the program is reproduced. This time information is defined in the Hewlett Packard video file server or MPEG2 standard.

Thus, the time information disclosed by Cooper is clearly not the same as that of claim 17, which corresponds to the present time when the pay content is transmitted. In claim 17, the time information is used to manage the temporary recording time of the pay content.

In addition, the time information (i.e., time code and the presentation time stamp) of Cooper is neither encrypted nor continuously transmitted after transmission of the content information has been completed. In particular, Applicants respectfully submit that contrary to claim 17, Cooper is not concerned with encrypting the time information. In claim 17, the time information is used to manage the temporary recording time of the pay content and is encrypted in order to prohibit any unauthorized copy.

In addition, unlike claim 17, Cooper is silent as to a means for reproducing received content information and for decrypting the transmission time information; means for

obtaining a time difference between the stored transmission time information and the received transmission time information when the reproduction interruption has been terminated; (iv) means for allowing a reproduction of the stored content information if the time difference is less than or equal to the predetermined period of time, and means for executing charging of pay information based on a value of the time difference; and (v) means for presenting an audible and/or visual warning if the time difference is greater than the predetermined period of time, and for deleting the stored content information. Applicants respectfully submit that the cited portions of Cooper fail to disclose, teach or suggest these features. The cited portions of Cooper merely disclose that the program is received by the user and that the user can suspend viewing the program if he/she so desires. There is no teaching or suggestion in the cited portions of Cooper as to how the reproduction of the program is performed and controlled when the user stops viewing the program. Rather, Cooper merely discloses that the incoming program could be recorded when the user stops viewing the program. (See, e.g., col. 1, lines 62-67 and col. 2, lines 1-8 of Cooper).

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that Hendricks, Cooper and a combination thereof cannot result, in any way, in the invention of claim 17.

Claims 19 and 20 are patentable over Hendricks, Cooper and a combination thereof at least by virtue of their dependencies from claim 17 and for the additional features recited therein.

Claims 21 and 22 are patentable over Hendricks, Cooper and a combination thereof for at least similar reasons as provided above in claim 17 and for the additional features recited therein.

For example, Hendricks, Cooper and a combination thereof are silent as to an information reproducing method used in a transmitting/receiving system including a transmitting side and a receiving side, comprising: (a) on the transmitting side (i) transmitting pay content information along with corresponding transmission time information, said content information being allowed to be stored for a predetermined period of time; and (ii) encrypting and transmitting transmission time information continuously after transmission of the content information has been completed, (b) on the receiving side (i) reproducing received content information and decrypting received transmission time information; (ii) temporarily storing the received content information as stored content information and the transmission time information as stored transmission time information when the reproduction is interrupted; (iii) obtaining a time difference between the stored transmission time information and the received transmission time information when the reproduction

interruption has been terminated; (iv) reproducing the stored content information if the time difference is less or equal to than the predetermined period, and executing charging of pay information based on a value of the time difference; and (v) presenting an audible and/or visual warning if the time difference is greater than the predetermined period of time, and deleting the stored content information.

In addition, Hendricks, Cooper and a combination thereof are silent as to an information reproducing apparatus for a transmitting/receiving system having a transmitting side and a receiving side, comprising (a) on the transmitting side, (i) a transmitting portion configured to transmit pay content information along with corresponding transmission time information in which the transmitting portion continues to encrypt and transmit the transmission time information after the transmission of the content information has been completed, said content information being allowed to be stored for a predetermined period of time; (b) on the receiving side, (i) a reproducing portion configured to receive and reproduce the content information and encrypting portion configured to encrypt the transmission time information; (ii) a storing portion configured to temporarily store the content information as stored content information and the transmission time information as stored transmission time information when reproduction is interrupted; (iii) a time-difference-obtaining portion configured to obtain a time difference between the stored transmission time information and current transmission time information received after the interruption is terminated; (iv) a conditional-reproduction portion configured to reproduce the stored content information if the time difference is less than or equal to the predetermined period of time; (v) a charging portion configured to execute charging of pay information based on a value of the time difference; and (vi) an output portion configured to provide an audible and/or visual warning if the time difference is greater than the predetermined period of time, and to delete the stored content information.

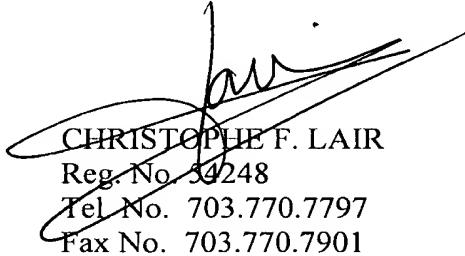
Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 17 and 19-22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Hendricks in view Cooper are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, the claims are now believed to be in form for allowance, and such action is hereby solicited. If any point remains in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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